



Honors Biology Syllabus

Instructor's Name: Mrs. Isdell **Class Name:** Honors Biology **Room No.** 219

Name of Textbook: Biology by: Stephen Nowicki **Publisher:** McDougal, Littell

Teacher Website: www.edmodo.com **Edmodo Code:** _____

Email address: sabrina.isdell@clayton.k12.ga.us

Course Overview: This course is designed for the highly motivated student. The course differs slightly from a general Biology course with respect to the kind of textbook used, the range and depth of topics covered, the kind of laboratory work done by students, and the time and effort required by the students. Students are expected to participate in outside readings, in-depth class discussions, written assignments such as, lab reports & research papers, and advanced open-inquiry labs to prepare students for further study in the biological sciences.

Biology is the study of living things. This course will provide students with an in-depth examination of the following components of biology: biological relationships, matter-energy relationships, cellular structure and functions, plant/animal complexity, genes and successive generations, ecosystems, and biological evolution. The overarching essential questions of this course will be, "*What is the never-ending story of life?*" and "*Why do living things die?*" This course is **required** for graduation.

Required materials: 1 three-ring binder (2-3 inch), **1 bounded composition book & presentation tri-board for Science Fair**, paper, blue or black pens, and pencils

Classroom Expectations:

- 1) Come to class prepared with all necessary materials.
- 2) Follow directions and always practice lab safety.
- 3) Be on time for class.
- 4) Raise your hand when you want to speak or need permission to leave your seat.
- 5) You should be working on the warm-up activity before the tardy bell rings.

Classroom Rules:

- 1) Respect the learning environment; do not curse or swear.
- 2) Be on time and sit in your assigned seat.
- 3) No gum, drink, or food allowed in classroom.
- 4) There should be **NO** talking or texting when I am lecturing.
- 5) Go to the bathroom and get water before class starts.
- 6) Do **NOT** go into the lab area until permission is given.

Discipline Procedure: If you break a rule, the following consequences will occur:

- 1st time:** Verbal warning
- 2nd time:** Teacher/Student Conference
- 3rd time:** Detention and phone call home.
- 4th time:** Administrative Referral

Make-Up Work Policy: This is the student's responsibility. **Use my Teacher Website for info.**

- 1) All missed assignments will be in the make-up folder in the front of the room.
- 2) Every 4 ½ weeks, I will notify you of any work in which you have not received credit. You will be given one week to finish assignments from that grading period only. If work is not made up by that week, those assignments will no longer be allowed for make-up and the grades will stand as is.
- 3) See teacher about missed tests and schedule a time for before or after school for make-up. Students will not be able to make-up tests during class time.

Late Work Policy: All homework is due at the beginning of the class period on the day that it is due. **1st day late a deduction of 15 points; highest grade earned 85.** 2nd day late an additional 15 points deducted; highest grade earned 70. After that late work will not be accepted. Turning homework in at the end of the class period is considered late.

Test Corrections: Any student that receives a grade that is not to his/her satisfactory on a test has the option of coming in before or after school to do test corrections. By completing test corrections, the student has the option of earning 1/2 credit for every question missed in an effort to improve his/her score. Students will have one week after graded tests are given out to schedule a time for test corrections. **NO STUDENT SHOULD HAVE A FAILING SCORE FOR A TEST GRADE, IF HE/SHE TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY.**

Grading Scale: A (90-100) B (80-89) C (71-79) D (70) F (below 70)

Assignments and Percentage of Total Grade:

Classwork/Labs	25%
Tests	20%
Quizzes	10%
Projects	10%
Homework/Notebook	15%
Final Exam	20%
	100%

****Science Fair:** Participation in science fair is optional for biology students. Students will be given a detailed hand-out of pertinent information related to this project if interested for extra credit.

***** Notebooks should be brought to class everyday.** You should have one notebook for biology that is separate from your other courses. These notebooks will be a useful tool in preparation for the **Georgia Milestones Test** given at the end of 2nd semester Biology. The major biology topics covered on these tests include: Structure/Function of Cells, Genetics, Classification of Organisms, Evolution, and Ecology. There will be 4 notebook checks per semester.

Textbooks: If the textbook is lost/stolen or significant damage to the binding or cover occurs, your child will be responsible for replacing the textbook. Price=\$75

There is a possibility of receiving bonus points at the end of the semester, based on participation and other possible factors to be determined by me. If I ever give you a detention and you do not serve it, you will **NOT** be eligible to receive any bonus points.

Academic Dishonesty: Each student must complete his/her own work. Any evidence of cheating will result in a **ZERO** and parent will be notified.